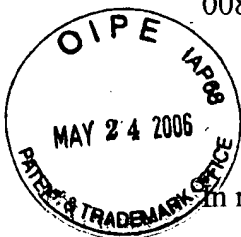


IFW

00862.023476.

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TETSUHITO IKEDA

Application No.: 10/780,630

Filed: February 19, 2004

For: STORAGE MEDIA CONTROL
CIRCUIT AND APPARATUS
INCLUDING SAME

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May 23, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the non-U.S. documents is enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 6,438,638
Japan 2001-177795
Japan 2001-273465
Japan 06-052375

The foregoing documents were cited in an Office Action in a corresponding Chinese application. A copy of the Chinese Office Action, which is dated December 30, 2005, is enclosed.

English language abstracts for the Japanese documents have been located and are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration. The concise explanation of relevance for each of these documents is believed to be satisfied by the enclosed English abstracts.

See MPEP § 609.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael K. O'Neill
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No.: 32,622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

